GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1388
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
CATEGORIZATION OF HIV/ AIDS AFFECTED ZONES
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of AIDS patients are increasing day by day in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of AIDs patients in the country during the last three years', State-wise;

(d) whether the National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) has categorized 163 districts in the country as "A grade or High Risk Zones were epidemic threshold has exceeded 1 per cent;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) whether the categorization of districts helps in addressing the problem and containing the disease;

(g) the aims and objectives of 'Be Hold' campaign launched in Andhra Pradesh; and

(h) the steps to be taken by the Government for eradication of this disease?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b) The estimated number of cases in the country is 2 million to 3.1 million. The prevalence rates have stabilized over the last 4 years around 0.36%.

(c) The number of AIDS cases reported by the State Health Authorities is given in the enclosed statement at Annexure-I.

(d)&(e) 156 districts have been categorized as 'A' category districts based on the sentinel surveillance data for the period 2004-2006 where the prevalence rate in antenatal women was 1% or more in any one of the 3 years.The list of category of districts-state-wise is enclosed at Annexure II.

(f) Higher priority for implementation and funding is accorded to category 'A' districts.

(g) The aim of the "Be Bold" campaign launched in A.P. is to encourage people to come forward for testing to assess their HIV status.

(h) Government of India has launched National AIDS Control Programme Phase III, with the goal to halt and reverse the epidemic in the country over the next 5 years by integrating programmes for prevention, care, support and treatment.This will be achieved through a four-pronged strategy:

1. Prevention of new infections in high risk groups and general population.

2. Providing greater care, support and treatment to larger number of PLHA.

3. Strengthening the infrastructure, systems and human resources in prevention, care, support and treatment programmes at the district, state and national level.

4. Strengthening the nationwide Strategic Information Management System.